

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101598

Details

Known as COSTA Ltd

Status Received

Registered 2015-01-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

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45 Dergenagh Road
Dungannon
County Tyrone
BT70 1tw
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Phone 02885556880

Email info.costa@btconnect.com

Website www.costaruralsupportnetwork.org

Activities

Purposes: The promotion, development and support of the voluntary and community sector, the advancement of community development and regeneration, the advancement of rural and urban regeneration, the advancement of education and the promotion of the benefit and well-being of the inhabitants (hereinafter called the "beneficiaries") of the Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council areas and their environs, in particular but not exclusively, ("hereinafter called the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, gender, sexual orientation, disability/ability, race, ethnic origin, political, religious or other opinion by associating the statutory and local authorities, voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of fostering a community spirit and improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants and in particular: (a) to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice, information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public; (b) to promote or assist in promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance as a result of their youth, age, disability or infirmity, or social and economic circumstances, in an effort to increase the abilities, skills and self-confidence of such communities in the area of benefit; (c) to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others; (d) to support community development, social inclusion and well-being activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community; (e) to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit; (f) to promote the advancement of health and well-being; (g) to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity; (h) to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit; (i) to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Community development, Community enterprise, Cross-border/cross-community, Education/training, Relief of poverty, Rural development, Volunteer development

Who the charity helps: Adult training, General public, Specific areas of deprivation, Voluntary and community sector, Volunteers

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£49,192	£46,864	£0	1

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Carmen Hamill		
Heather Nixon-Mclaughlin		
Katrina Mccaughey		
Lisa Mcfarland		
Raymond Harrison		
Richard Knox		
Rosina O'neill		
Sharon Mcaleer		
Trevor Lockhart		
Wilfred Mitchell Obe		

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Accounts

Registration number NI042832
Charity Number: NIC101598

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
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Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, are pleased to present their annual report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Reference and administrative details

<u>Charity Number</u>	NIC101598 The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee as per the Memorandum of Association
<u>Registered Number</u>	NI042832
<u>Registered Office</u>	Presidents Grants Homestead 45 Dergenagh Road Dungannon Co. Tyrone BT70 1TW
<u>Independent Examiners'</u>	MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Ltd Wellington House 30 Darling Street Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh
<u>Bankers</u>	Ulster Bank Limited 14 High Street Omagh Co. Tyrone BT78 1BJ

Directors & Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charities and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Directors.

The directors serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

<i>Directors</i>	Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson) Ms Carmen Hamill (Vice Chairperson) Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary & Company Secretary) Ms Heather Nixon-McLaughlin Mr Raymond Harrison Prof Wilfred Mitchell OBE Mr David McFarlane (Resigned 22/06/2024) Mr Anthony McGonnell Ms Rosina O'Neill Ms Sharon McAleer (Appointed 22/06/2024) Ms Lisa McFarland (Appointed 03/10/2024) Ms Katrina McCaughey (Appointed 04/11/2024)
<i>Company Secretary</i>	Mr Trevor Lockhart

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2002 with a registration number of NI 042832.

The Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was approved for registration as a charity with the Charity Commission for NI on 21st March 2013, with a registration number of NIC 101598.

Appointment of directors

The number of Directors shall be not less than four or more than fifteen.

Quorum for meetings is three of all members or the number nearest one third of total members which ever is greater.

One third (or the number nearest one third) of the Directors must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.

Membership is open to other persons (aged 18+) who are invited to become members of the Charity by the Directors and apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors.

Organisation

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) is a rural Support Network organisation. COSTA's principle activity is providing community development support primarily to rural community groups in Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. This takes the form of helping local groups to determine need in their respective communities, identifying funding opportunities and providing support to develop and deliver projects. COSTA's particular focus is helping groups with the NI Rural Development Programme, social economy, rural poverty, social isolation and developing community capacity and leadership. COSTA also provides a local community resource library and community venue at Presidents Grant's Homestead. COSTA provides a Newsletter, a regular email communications, events and informal support, training, information and workshops to build community capacity, promote good governance, and good/community relation within Dungannon Council Area.

Related Parties

Community Organisations Of South Tyrone & Areas continues to work in close partnership with Cookstown & Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN).

Risk Management

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) as this funding stream will come to an end in 2026. The funding stream provided by RCDSS provided the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources. The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however, COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 2 years ahead.

Risks to Directors, staff, clients and members of the public are covered by robust directors, employers and public liability insurances.

Directors are ever aware of their governance responsibilities and a reserve fund is maintained so that in the unlikely event that the charity had to close, the Directors would be in a position to honour redundancy payments and other legal and moral obligations.

Risks of misappropriation of funds are managed through financial policies and procedures including a fraud policy and the annual examiners report on the accounts.

Risk management policies and procedures are in place and are reviewed regularly.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
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Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Objectives & Activities

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one or more of the following charitable objectives:

- A. to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- B. to promote or assist in the promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance;
- C. to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- D. to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- E. to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- F. to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- G. to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- H. to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- I. to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Achievements and Performance

The overall aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Key Activities for the Year:

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over 15 years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our 16th year, in April 2026, of delivering the 'Rural Community Development Support Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

The key elements of this current contract with the Department of Agriculture, environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) supported through their Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Framework (TRPSI) are:

1. Local Groups: Increased Awareness/ Improved Capacity & Enhanced Sustainability;
2. Local Individuals: Improved Capacity of Individuals, Farmers & Farm Families;
3. Relationships: Bonding, Bridging & Linking.

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Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

The RCDSS provides on-going practical Community Development support services - responsive local group's needs:

Events / Workshops / Visits / Meetings.

- Newsletters / E-Bulletins / Public Relations.
- Facebook Page / Website.
- Use of 'Grant-Tracker' / funding searches etc.
- Assistance with funding applications.
- Networking & Sharing expertise.
- Capacity Building, Training.
- Good Practice Checklists & Action Plans.
- Governance & Board / Management Committee Skills.
- Office Services – access to photocopying, fax and email.
- Resources, Library, Equipment loan.
- Wide range of Management & Leadership Support Services.
- Community Audit (support), SWOTs, Profiles, Statistics.
- Policies, Procedures, Good Practice Guides.
- Action Plans, Needs Assessments, Skills Reviews.

Financial Review

Overall the Directors feel that the Charity has performed well over the year. Despite the increasingly difficult funding climate, the Board of Directors have managed to maintain a sound financial basis. This has been achieved through a very proactive and focused approach in the implementation of a successful fundraising strategy, continuous review of over-heads and the introduction of cost saving measures.

The Directors have also been able to ensure that core funding has been retained into the coming year.

A Reserves Policy is in place, which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £25,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves at 31 March 2025 are £21,518 in order to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any unforeseen scenarios.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The charity is looking ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in finding streams and to underpin variable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

Plans for the Future Periods

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation, we take seriously our role in supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

Public Benefit Statement

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include improves: cooperation; good/community relations; networking; skills; confidence; governance in community groups; increased capability in the management of community projects and facilities; increased access to funding for groups to develop projects; better informed group representatives about the sector and opportunities; enhanced ability to participate in decision making on policies which affect rural areas; more access to equipment as and when groups require it; strengthened ability of groups and individuals to avail of programmes which will improve their circumstances and opportunities. These benefits are evidenced through feedback from attendees at our events using evaluation forms; surveys conducted with member groups; records of loans/using equipment; verbal feedback of services provided; and independent evaluation of our services by funders. There is no harm anticipated from this purpose. The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in rural areas of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. A private benefit to Trustees may arise from our ongoing services and programme of training, good practise visits, direct support to groups, support provided through grants or information provision. Through this, Trustees gain skills, experience, or grant aid which are transferable to other settings, and which may benefit their own community group. Our own Trustees receive information in the same way as other beneficiaries. These benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
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Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Examiner

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's independent examiner is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant independent examiner information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 13th November 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Richard Knox
Chairperson



Trevor Lockhart
Secretary



Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Examiners' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2025

We have examined the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Summary Income and Expenditure Accounts, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial statements that we have. This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, report to the Board of Directors that we have done so, and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our work, or this report.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The company's trustees (who are the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:-

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your company financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in any material aspect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Examiners' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Independent examiner's statement

We have no concern and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statement to be reached.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Rasdale', written over a horizontal line.

Anthony Rasdale
MacNeary Rasdale & Co Ltd
"Wellington House"
30 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh

13th November 2025

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income & Expenditure account)
31 MARCH 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and gifts	3	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	619	48,573	49,192	48,470
Release of Deferred Income		-	-	-	-
Total Income		<u>619</u>	<u>48,573</u>	<u>49,192</u>	<u>48,470</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5 6	-	46,864	46,864	44,050
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>46,864</u>	<u>46,864</u>	<u>44,050</u>
Net income/ (deficit)		619	1,709	2,328	4,420
Other recognised gains and losses					
Other gain/(losses)					
Net movement in funds		-	4,420	4,420	4,420
Total funds brought forward		<u>20,899</u>	<u>52,790</u>	<u>73,689</u>	<u>73,689</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>21,518</u>	<u>58,919</u>	<u>80,437</u>	<u>78,109</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2025	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2024
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		94,946	97,618
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	1,500	6,500
Net current assets		93,446	91,118
Total assets less current liabilities		93,446	91,118
Deferred income		(13,009)	(13,009)
Net assets		80,437	78,109
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		58,919	57,210
Unrestricted funds		21,518	20,899
Total charity funds	13	80,437	78,109

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ended 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from the audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006: and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The directors confirm that the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 MARCH 2025

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 13th November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Richard Knox
(Chairperson)



Mr Trevor Lockhart
(Secretary)



Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland.

1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP) (FRS 102).

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
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Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Limited by guarantee

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

3. Unrestricted Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Donations and Gifts	- ----- -----	- ----- -----	- ----- -----
Deferred Income Release	- ----- -----	- ----- -----	- ----- -----

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2025

3. Restricted Funds

	Restricted Fund Income £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Analysis of Grant Income Received			
DAERA Grant	44573	44573	43750
MUD Strategic Network Grant	4000	4000	3000
CSWAN	-	-	720
Rural Warm & Chatty Place	-	-	1000
	48,573	48,573	48,470

4. Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted Expenditure 2025 £	2024 Total £
Analysis of resources expended for charitable activities		
COSTA Covid-19 Micro Grants	-	-
Staff Pension Costs	-	-
General Expenses	-	-
Travel Expenses	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-
Light & Heat	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-
	-	-

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2025

6. Analysis of resources expending for grant purposes

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Analysis of restricted grant expenses		
DAERA Grant	44,573	43,750
MUDC Grant	4,000	3,000
	<u>48,573</u>	<u>46,750</u>

7. Staff Costs

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The true staff costs of the company during the year is noted below. The staff costs disclosed in the accounts have been reduced as they have been funded by a DAERA Grant .

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages & Salaries	32,820	30,507
Social Security and Pension Costs	2,746	2,746
	<u>35,566</u>	<u>33,253</u>

Amounts of Staff Costs Funded by Grant Assistance

DAERA Grant Funding

8. Emoluments of Directors

No director or member received any remuneration from the company during the year (2025: £Nil).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2025

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost:		
At 31 March 2024	4,979	4,979
Additions		
Disposals		
At 31 March 2025	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Accumulated Depreciation:

At 31 March 2024	4,979	4,979
Charge for year		
At 31 March 2025	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Net Book Value:

At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Other Debtors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11. Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,500</u>
Deferred Income - Government Grants	<u>13,009</u>	<u>13,009</u>

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
 Notes to the Accounts
 For the year ended 31st March 2025

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

There are no provisions for liabilities and charges in the current or previous year.

13. Total Charity Funds

There was no fund transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds within the year.

	Total Fund £	Total £
Balance of unrestricted funds at 1 April 2024	20,899	20,899
Deficit allocation to general reserves		
Balance of unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025	<u>20,899</u>	<u>20,899</u>
Balance of restricted funds at 1 April 2024	52,790	52,790
Surplus allocated to restricted reserve	4,420	4,420
Balance of restricted funds at 31 March 2025	<u>57,210</u>	<u>57,210</u>
Total funds both restricted and unrestricted at 31 March 2025	<u>78,109</u>	<u>78,109</u>

14. Cash Flow Statement

Under the provisions of Financial Reporting 102, the company is permitted to prepare annual accounts which exclude a Cash Flow Statement.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Accounts

Registration number NI042832
Charity Number: NIC101598

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, are pleased to present their annual report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

<u>Charity Number</u>	NIC101598 The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee as per the Memorandum of Association
<u>Registered Number</u>	NI042832
<u>Registered Office</u>	Presidents Grants Homestead 45 Dergenagh Road Dungannon Co. Tyrone BT70 1TW
<u>Auditors</u>	MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Ltd Wellington House 30 Darling Street Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh
<u>Bankers</u>	Ulster Bank Limited 14 High Street Omagh Co. Tyrone BT78 1BJ

Directors & Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charities and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Directors.

The directors serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

<i>Directors</i>	Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson) Ms Carmen Hamill (Vice Chairperson) Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary & Company Secretary) Mr John Burrell MBE (Treasurer) (Deceased 6/12/2023) Ms Heather Nixon-McLaughlin Mr Raymond Harrison Prof Wilfred Mitchell OBE Mr David McFarlane (Resigned 22/06/2024) Mr Anthony McGonnell Ms Rosina O'Neill Ms Sharon McAleer (Appointed 22/06/2024)
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<i>Company Secretary</i>	Mr Trevor Lockhart
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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2002 with a registration number of NI 042832.

The Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was approved for registration as a charity with the Charity Commission for NI on 21st March 2013, with a registration number of NIC 101598.

Appointment of directors

The number of Directors shall be not less than four or more than fifteen.

Quorum for meetings is three of all members or the number nearest one third of total members which ever is greater.

One third (or the number nearest one third) of the Directors must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.

Membership is open to other persons (aged 18+) who are invited to become members of the Charity by the Directors and apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors.

Organisation

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) is a rural Support Network organisation. COSTA's principle activity is providing community development support primarily to rural community groups in Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. This takes the form of helping local groups to determine need in their respective communities, identifying funding opportunities and providing support to develop and deliver projects. COSTA's particular focus is helping groups with the NI Rural Development Programme, social economy, rural poverty, social isolation and developing community capacity and leadership. COSTA also provides a local community resource library and community venue at Presidents Grant's Homestead. COSTA provides a Newsletter, a regular email communications, events and informal support, training, information and workshops to build community capacity, promote good governance, and good/community relation within Dungannon Council Area.

Related Parties

Community Organisations Of South Tyrone & Areas continues to work in close partnership with Cookstown & Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN).

**Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee**

**Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Risk Management

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) as this funding stream will come to an end in 2026. The funding stream provided by RCDSS provided the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources. The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however, COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 2 years ahead.

Risks to Directors, staff, clients and members of the public are covered by robust directors, employers and public liability insurances.

Directors are ever aware of their governance responsibilities and a reserve fund is maintained so that in the unlikely event that the charity had to close, the Directors would be in a position to honour redundancy payments and other legal and moral obligations.

Risks of misappropriation of funds are managed through financial policies and procedures including a fraud policy and the annual external audit of accounts.

Risk management policies and procedures are in place and are reviewed regularly.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives & Activities

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one or more of the following charitable objectives:

- A. to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- B. to promote or assist in the promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance;
- C. to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- D. to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- E. to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- F. to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- G. to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- H. to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- I. to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Achievements and Performance

The overall aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Key Activities for the Year:

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCOSS)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over 13 years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our 13th year, in April 2023, of delivering the 'Rural Community Development Support Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

The key elements of this current contract with the Department of Agriculture, environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) supported through their Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Framework (TRPSI) are:

1. Local Groups: Increased Awareness/ Improved Capacity & Enhanced Sustainability;
2. Local Individuals: Improved Capacity of Individuals, Farmers & Farm Families;
3. Relationships: Bonding, Bridging & Linking.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The RCDSS provides on-going practical Community Development support services - responsive local group's needs:

Events / Workshops / Visits / Meetings.

- Newsletters / E-Bulletins / Public Relations.
- Facebook Page / Website.
- Use of 'Grant-Tracker' / funding searches etc.
- Assistance with funding applications.
- Networking & Sharing expertise.
- Capacity Building, Training.
- Good Practice Checklists & Action Plans.
- Governance & Board / Management Committee Skills.
- Office Services – access to photocopying, fax and email.
- Resources, Library, Equipment loan.
- Wide range of Management & Leadership Support Services.
- Community Audit (support), SWOTs, Profiles, Statistics.
- Policies, Procedures, Good Practice Guides.
- Action Plans, Needs Assessments, Skills Reviews.

Financial Review

Overall the Directors feel that the Charity has performed well over the year. Despite the increasingly difficult funding climate, the Board of Directors have managed to maintain a sound financial basis. This has been achieved through a very proactive and focused approach in the implementation of a successful fundraising strategy, continuous review of over-heads and the introduction of cost saving measures.

The Directors have also been able to ensure that core funding has been retained into the coming year.

A Reserves Policy is in place, which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £25,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves at 31 March 2024 are £20,899 in order to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any unforeseen scenarios.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The charity is looking ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in finding streams and to underpin variable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

Plans for the Future Periods

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation, we take seriously our role in supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

Public Benefit Statement

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include improves: cooperation; good/community relations; networking; skills; confidence; governance in community groups; increased capability in the management of community projects and facilities; increased access to funding for groups to develop projects; better informed group representatives about the sector and opportunities; enhanced ability to participate in decision making on policies which affect rural areas; more access to equipment as and when groups require it; strengthened ability of groups and individuals to avail of programmes which will improve their circumstances and opportunities. These benefits are evidenced through feedback from attendees at our events using evaluation forms; surveys conducted with member groups; records of loans/using equipment; verbal feedback of services provided; and independent evaluation of our services by funders. There is no harm anticipated from this purpose. The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in rural areas of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. A private benefit to Trustees may arise from our ongoing services and programme of training, good practise visits, direct support to groups, support provided through grants or information provision. Through this, Trustees gain skills, experience, or grant aid which are transferable to other settings, and which may benefit their own community group. Our own Trustees receive information in the same way as other beneficiaries. These benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The auditor is deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

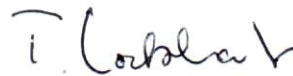
Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 30th September 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Richard Knox
Chairperson



Trevor Lockhart
Secretary

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd for the year ended 31st March 2024 which comprise statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31st March 2024
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with the United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice;
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- The directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- The directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received by us; or
- The company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entity or business activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Anthony Rasdale
Anthony Rasdale (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Limited
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Wellington House
30 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh

30th September 2024

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income & Expenditure account)
31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and gifts	3	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	-	48,470	48,470	48,470
Release of Deferred Income		-	-	-	-
Total Income		-	48,470	48,470	46,555
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5 6		44,050	44,050	42,751
Total Expenditure			44,050	44,050	42,751
Net income/ (deficit)			4,420	4,420	5,719
Other recognised gains and losses					
Other gain/(losses)					
Net movement in funds		-	4,420	4,420	5,719
Total funds brought forward		20,899	52,790	73,689	67,970
Total funds carried forward		20,899	57,210	78,109	73,689

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

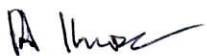
Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

As At 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2023
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		97,618	88,198
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	6,500	1,500
Net current assets		91,118	86,698
Total assets less current liabilities		91,118	86,698
Deferred income		(13,009)	(13,009)
Net assets		78,109	73,689
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		57,210	52,790
Unrestricted funds		20,899	20,899
Total charity funds	13	78,109	73,689

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.
 The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 30th September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


 Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson)


 Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland.

1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP) (FRS 102).

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Limited by guarantee

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

3. Unrestricted Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Donations and Gifts	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Deferred Income Release	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

3. Restricted Funds

	Restricted Fund Income £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Analysis of Grant Income Received			
DAERA Grant	43,750	43750	43750
MUD Strategic Network Grant	3,000	3000	3000
CSWAN	720	720	720
Rural Warm & Chatty Place	1,000	1000	1000
	<u>48,470</u>	<u>48,470</u>	<u>48,470</u>

4. Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted Expenditure 2024 £	2023 Total £
Analysis of resources expended for charitable activities		
COSTA Covid-19 Micro Grants	-	-
Staff Pension Costs	-	-
General Expenses	-	-
Travel Expenses	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-
Light & Heat	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

6. Analysis of resources expending for grant purposes

	2024	2023
	Total	Total
	£	£
Analysis of restricted grant expenses		
DAERA Grant	43,750	43,750
MUDC Grant	3,000	3,000
	<u>46,750</u>	<u>43,750</u>

7. Staff Costs

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The true staff costs of the company during the year is noted below. The staff costs disclosed in the accounts have been reduced as they have been funded by a DAERA Grant .

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages & Salaries	30,507	30,507
Social Security and Pension Costs	2,746	2,746
	<u>33,253</u>	<u>33,253</u>

Amounts of Staff Costs Funded by Grant Assistance

DAERA Grant Funding

8. Emoluments of Directors

No director or member received any remuneration from the company during the year (2024: £Nil).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost:	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
At 31 March 2023	4,979	4,979
Additions		
Disposals		
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Accumulated Depreciation:

At 31 March 2023	4,979	4,979
Charge for year		
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Net Book Value:

At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other Debtors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11. Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	6,500	1,500
	<u>6,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Deferred Income - Government Grants	13,009	13,009
	<u>13,009</u>	<u>13,009</u>

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

There are no provisions for liabilities and charges in the current or previous year.

13. Total Charity Funds

There was no fund transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds within the year.

	Total Fund £	Total £
Balance of unrestricted funds at 1 April 2023	20,899	20,899
Deficit allocation to general reserves		
Balance of unrestricted funds at 31 March 2024	<u>20,899</u>	<u>20,899</u>
Balance of restricted funds at 1 April 2023	52,790	52,790
Surplus allocated to restricted reserve	4,420	4,420
Balance of restricted funds at 31 March 2024	<u>57,210</u>	<u>57,210</u>
Total funds both restricted and unrestricted at 31 March 2024	<u>78,109</u>	<u>78,109</u>

14. Cash Flow Statement

Under the provisions of Financial Reporting 102, the company is permitted to prepare annual accounts which exclude a Cash Flow Statement.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Annual report

Annual Report & Report on Public Benefit

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd

(COSTA)

REPORTING PERIOD

1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024

TRUSTEES

Richard Knox	<i>Chairperson</i>	
Trevor Lockhart	<i>Secretary & Company Secretary</i>	
John Burrell MBE	<i>Treasurer</i>	(Deceased 6 Dec 2023)
Heather Nixon-McLaughlin		
Raymond Harrison		
Wilfred Mitchell OBE		
Anthony McGonnell		
Rosina O'Neill		
Carmen Hamill		
Sharon McAleer		(Appointed 22 June 2023)
David McFarlane		(Resigned 22 June 2023)

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd
14 High Street
Omagh
Co. Tyrone
BT78 1BJ

AUDITORS

Mac Neary Rasdale & Co
Registered Accountants & Auditors
Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh
BT74 7EW

TRUSTEES REPORT

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, submit their Annual Report and the audited Financial Statements for the **year ended 31 March 2024**. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) was first established in 2000 as an unincorporated Association.

COSTA was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee No. NI 42832 governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 on 26th March 2002, and now as amended, under the Companies Act 2006 on 21 March 2013.

COSTA is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland No: NIC101598.

The registered office address is President Grants Homestead, 45 Dergenagh Road, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland, BT70 1TW.

COSTA has held International Standards Organisation Quality Management Status: ISO 9001:2015. Certificate: FS 592437 was last awarded on 21 February 2017.

COSTA is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) through DAERA's Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation Programme (TRPSI) and Mid Ulster District Council.

The trustees of the company are its directors for the purposes of charity law and are collectively referred to as trustees. The number of trustees shall not be less than 4 or more than 15. COSTA is managed by a board of voluntary trustees elected every year from across the Dungannon and South Tyrone area of Mid Ulster. After each election, an induction session is held for new members of the board to explain the major areas of activity, including current programmes of work, guidance on the governance aspects of a trustee's role, an introduction to the strategic aims over the year ahead and an examination of the main threat and opportunities facing the charity.

The day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to a staff team headed by Loraine Griffin (Network Business Manager), which reports to the Board of trustees between 5 to 7 times per year. The Finance and Human Resources Sub-committee oversees major aspects of work and reports from the sub-committee are presented back to the full board meeting as they occur.

Written policies and procedures detail the decision making powers which are delegated to staff and those which are retained by the trustees. The current Finance and Human Resources sub-committee has committed to working with the Board on an ongoing programme of review of policies which used within the organisation.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is potentially exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Local Rural Community Development Support Service (LRCDSS) as this core funding stream comes to an end in **September 2025**. This funding stream provided by LRCDSS provides the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources.

The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however, COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 3 years with a possible further extension of 2 more years.

PURPOSES

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one of more of the following charitable objects:

- a) to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- b) to promote or assist in promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance
- c) to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- d) to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- e) to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- f) to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- g) to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- h) to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- i) to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Objectives and Activities / Public Benefit

In shaping our activities and objectives, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

During the reporting period the organisation carried out its operations under the following four strategic aims and associated objectives:

- 1. Support for Community Planning**
- 2. Support for Isolated Rural People**
- 3. Support the Sustainability of Rural Villages**
- 4. Supporting Marginalised Minority Communities in rural border areas.**
- 5. Promoting Good Community Relations**

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REVIEW

Hello and a very warm welcome to all for COSTA's 2023 Annual General Meeting.

The location of this years' AGM is of great significance as we welcome you all to the newly refurbished Old Market Yard Hall which was funded by the Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership LAG's, Rural Services Scheme under the NI Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020.

The Hall Committee worked extremely hard in bringing a share of the Rural Development funding into Clogher. In particular, I want to acknowledge Richard Mulligan for his leadership in driving this initiative forward, ensuring delivery of an excellent capital development for community use, for

hosting us tonight, and assisting COSTA and CWSAN in carrying out a review of the Clogher Village Plan.

Later on we look forward to hearing from local woman, Veronica Morris from Rural Support who will be filling us in on what is out there for Farmers and Farm Families in such challenging times. Then we will be tucking in to some delicious food from Diamond Catering as we Network.

This year sees its own fresh challenges as the Cost of Living Crisis bites. Tough time are certainly ahead as the government takes a hatchet to Budgets and Public Services, and many Voluntary/Community Sector organisations will struggle with having their funding cut or stopped altogether. COSTA aims to survive and to support our local groups and infrastructure through such a tough and quite unprecedented environment.

COSTA thanks and acknowledges our keystone funder the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DEARA), which makes the Network possible, and for their role in ensuring continuation of the Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Inclusion (TRPSI) Scheme, and the Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme which has funded groups throughout the Mid Ulster District and the region for over 8 years now.

I give a note of sincere thanks to all my fellow Board members, and off course to Mid Ulster District Council for their many years of funding and dedicated support.

This year however sees many changes to our Councillor representatives following the recent election with some new Councillors joining us shortly: Cllr Gael Gildernew, Cllr Eugene McConnell and Cllr Karol McQuade and I hope they enjoy their time on COSTA.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Cllr Dominic Molloy on his position as MUDC Chairperson and Cllr Meta Graham in her position of MUDC Deputy Chairperson, both of which will continue on COSTA.

It is however extremely unfortunate that we will be losing three very highly valued Council members; Cllr Frances Burton, Cllr Sharon McAleer and Cllr Sean McGuigan. Cllr McAleer will hopefully be re-joining us again as a Community Representative on the Board. In addition, David McFarlane from Bush Community Group will also retire as a Board Member this year.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our out-going members for their time, skills, dedication, knowledge and years of experience given to COSTA. We wish them all the very best for the future. I also extend our very deepest sympathy to Cllr Meta Graham and family for the sudden loss of her husband Robert Lawrence Graham on 12th December 2022, and also to Trevor Lockhart and family for the very recent passing of his brother Kenneth Andrew Lockhart on 11th June 2023. Our thoughts are certainly with you all.

COSTA continues providing for the local community via our single staff member, Development Manager, Loraine Griffin. Along with Conor Corr, Seamus Donnelly and Marguerite Quinn of CWSAN a further year of the DAERA Local Rural Community Development Support Service (LRCDSS) contract has been delivered throughout Mid Ulster District as part of 7 regional providers. Our partnership with CWSAN – who cover the Cookstown and Magherafelt areas - continues on strongly and we hopefully look forward to many more years of joint working across our District and from our Office at President Grant's Homestead.

I also present our Annual Report which showcases the level and diversity of our work both for and in the local community. Many very positive developments for COSTA continued this year as we served on Mid Ulster Community Planning, the Charity Commission NI Stakeholder Forum, and the Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum to name but just a few.

I wish you, your communities, groups and villages all the very best going forward, as we get back out into the community again and meet much more face-to-face. COSTA is here to support you all – so give us a call!

Richard Knox - COSTA Chairperson

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW

Welcome everyone as we celebrate our 23rd Birthday!

I am delighted we are out again in the community and celebrating 23 years in this newly renovated Hall in Clogher and I congratulate Richard Mulligan and the Hall Committee for all their achievements.

Now entering into our second year of the current RCDSS contract under DAERA, this year COSTA has been very busy delivering 25 Newsletters, 2 special funding and information Bulletins, 8 'Open Door Days' with 38 attendees, 17 Workshops to 231 participants, 185 Website updates, and 234 Facebook posts. We have actively supported and engaged over 484 times with local Groups, Communities and Villages. We worked with over 50 agencies on a wide range of initiatives: MUD Council, Age Friendly MU, Mid Ulster Loneliness Network, CYPSP, Southern Outcomes Group, Integrated Care Partnership, Patient Client Council, Encompass, Community Planning, and major strategic issues with the Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum. This year COSTA joined the Charity Commission NI Stakeholder Forum and we continue to Chair the CYPSP. Our key activities can be viewed on pages 8 - 20 of this Report.

COSTA has continued to provide our full range of support, information, services, training workshops and the DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2022 which located onto a totally new on-line application and management portal, which this year saw 189 successful applications – our largest ever up-take. Thank you to Conor, Marguerite, Seamy, Anita, Denise, Gerry, Josie, and everyone in CWSAN for working so hard throughout.

I extend thanks to Mid Ulster District Council for their continued funding and support of COSTA, to Philip Clarke as Statutory Representative, and Ted and Faye Sharkey for their hard work in keeping President Grant's Homestead a very welcoming place for everyone.

A huge 'thank you' goes to the entire COSTA Board who are so supportive and volunteer their time and expertise so diligently: Richard Knox COSTA Chairperson, Trevor Lockhart, Heather McLaughlin, Carmen Hamill, Rosina O'Neill, John Burrell *MBE*, Raymond Harrison, Anthony McGonnell, Wilfred Mitchell OBE and David McFarland. Thank you to our Council Members: Frances Burton, Meta Graham, Dominic Molloy, Sean McGuigan and Sharon McAleer for their experience, knowledge, guidance and wisdom and welcome to our new reps.

We encourage local groups to make contact for any assistance required and we look forward to getting back out to see you all again while still also being able to fully accommodate online meetings via Zoom too. So please give us a call any time for assistance as we encourage everyone to reach out, to stay in touch, to stay informed, and also keep-up-to-date via our Website, FaceBook pages and our new twice-monthly Mail Chimp E-Newsletter Updates.

COSTA aims to meet all challenges ahead and to see that we continue to have a local office and a local service here to support our local communities as YOUR Local Support Network for the Dungannon and South Tyrone area ;)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The overall aim of COSTA's work is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over **13** years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our **14th year, from April 2024**, delivering a newly updated 'Rural Community Development Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS)

The new DAERA Rural Community Development Support Service has been awarded in 8 geographical catchments (Lots) to 6 providers plus COSTA. This ensures a Northern Ireland-wide service for rural communities which are largely defined as 'people living in communities or settlements of less than 4,000 people'.

DAERA has a key role in the delivery of the cross-departmental outcomes and a particular emphasis on overarching outcomes: **We live and work sustainably – protecting the environment.** Of particular importance to DAERA and the Networks are Outcomes 2 and 3, Outcome 2 – A clean, healthy environment, benefitting nature and the economy. The LRDSS is a key part of delivering on **Outcome 3 – A thriving rural economy, contributing to prosperity and well-being.**

COSTA and CWSAN have secured another 3 years funding to continue to deliver the Rural CD Support service in Mid Ulster from October 2024.

KEY ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR

The COSTA Local Rural Community Development Support Service (LRCDSS) delivered across the Dungannon & South Tyrone area of Mid Ulster District:

1. Support for Community Planning:

- 18 Newsletters and 1 COSTA Support Signposting Directory (24/11/2023) to 500+ Groups.
- 25 Email-outs to 500+ Groups.
- 185 Website updates.
- 342 posts on 2 Facebook Pages.
- 2 Facebook Pages: 558 Followers and 507 Page Likes / 52 Check-ins.

- 617 LRCDSS supports to groups.
- 14 Good Practice Checklists (Community Planning).
- 46 Community Planning Feedbacks / Opportunities / Linkages / Actions.
- 63 Linkages / Engagements regarding Community Planning.
- 4 Meetings: MUDC Community Planning.

Support for Isolated Rural People:

- 183 COSTA Member Groups.
- 7 'Open Door Days' (26 groups / 41 attendees).
- 14 Good Practice Checklists (Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation).
- 14 Checklist Follow-ups to Groups' needs.
- 116 Groups supported / mentored on Capacity Building.
- 55 Groups supported with Funding Applications.
- 81 Groups supported / mentored on Governance.
- 63 New Database Entries / Updates.
- 12 Governance Workshops with 55 participants: 'A Quick Guide to GDPR', 'Basic Financial Management', 'Charity Registration & Annual Returns' 'Update & Changes to UK Company Law' 'Funding Information & Readiness'.
- 147 Interagency Engagements: MU Community Navigator, MU Coronavirus Support Forum, SHSC Trust Social Care Hub, Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation (TRPSI) Promotions / Signpostings / Referrals: MULN, DAERA, ARTS, CYPSP, Agewell MU, Health Alliance, CDM Community Transport, Rural Support, SUSE+ / DEL / FarmSAFE, Libraries NI, Farm Family Health Checks, NIVCA, RCN, RNNI, Rural Action, JVCS Forum etc.
- 22 Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum Meetings.
- 1 Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum Workshop 'Stocktake & Forward Planning Session': 04/06/2023.

2. Support for the Sustainability of Rural Villages

- 2 Rural Villages Supported.
- 2 Village Plans Reviewed.
- 21 Village Plan Meetings: 45 Groups / 90 attendees.
- 2 Good Practice Visits: Brantry BARD and Bawn Hall (35 attendees) 15/09/2023.
- 1 Village Test & Learn Area: Aughnacloy Village.
- DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2022: 12 Groups supported to submit Claims
- 3 Meetings: DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2022.

3. **Governance & Sustainability**

- 1 RCDSS Event (50 attendees) with DAERA Director of Rural Affairs: 27/06/2023 with 2 COSTA Presentations: Richard Knox (Clonaneese Historical Society & Trevor Lockhart Bawn Development Association).
- 1 Programme of Evaluation in place for Regional LRCOSS and 1 Workshop 18/07/2023.
- 6 RCDSS Regional Case Studies.
- 24 DAERA / LRCOSS / LRSNs Contract Meetings.
- 4 LRCOSS Monitoring Reports / 4 Audit Certificates.
- 4 LRCOSS / DAERA Financial & Monitoring Checks.
- 1 Company House Annual Return: March 2024.
- 1 Charity Commission NI Annual Return: December 2023.
- 5 COSTA Board Meetings.
- 1 COSTA Annual General Meeting (22/6/2023) 26 attendees.
- 1 COSTA Board Training Session 15/12/2023 (7 attendees).

COSTA Project Partnerships & Representation 2023 / 2024

- ✓ Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum.
- ✓ Charity Commission NI Stakeholder Forum.
- ✓ Mid Ulster District Community Plan - VCS Member / Clogher Valley DEA / Education & Skills Thematic Working Group.
- ✓ Mid Ulster LAPN – Local Anti-Poverty Network.
- ✓ Mid Ulster Seniors Network (MUSN).
- ✓ Mid Ulster Loneliness Network (MULN).
- ✓ Age Friendly Mid-Ulster Alliance.
- ✓ Agewell Mid-Ulster.
- ✓ Community Sector Training - Management Group.
- ✓ People & Place Review (Rural Advisory Group).
- ✓ MUD Council Fair Trade Steering Group (Chair).
- ✓ NI Ambulance Service Partner Voice Forum.
- ✓ ENCOMPASS Programme - Engagement Council Panel
- ✓ Agewell Mid-Ulster Partnership.
- ✓ CYPSP - Children & Young People Strategic Partnership Locality Group (Armagh & Dungannon) & Chairperson.
- ✓ RCDSS / Local Rural Support Networks Managers Forum.
- ✓ Southern Area Outcomes Group (A&D Rep).
- ✓ Shared Neighbourhood Advisory Group (Dungannon).
- ✓ Collaboration Test & Learn Pilot Project (Aughnacloy).
- ✓ Linking Generations NI
- ✓ Clogher Valley Community Hub (Peace +).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR WORK PLEASE SEE FULL ANNUAL REPORT
AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: [Newsletters & Annual Reports \(costaruralsupportnetwork.org\)](https://www.costaruralsupportnetwork.org)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

FINANCIAL POSITION AT END OF YEAR

For the year income is **£48,470**. During the year some cutbacks were made arising as a result of austerity funding cuts from DAERA.

Despite cuts to funding programmes, the organisation remains in a very strong financial position as we commence a new Tender Contract which should last for up to 3+ years ahead.

OUTSTANDING DEBTS OR LIABILITIES

There were no debts or outstanding debts or liabilities.

RESERVES POLICY

A Reserves Policy is in place which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £20,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves **at 31 March 2024 are £20,899** to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any potential scenarios.

COSTA has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The Charity is looking at ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in funding streams and to underpin viable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

FUNDS IN MATERIAL DEFICIT AND STEPS TAKEN TO MITIGATE

There were no funds in material deficit.

FINANCIAL MITIGATION

The Trustees of COSTA acknowledge and understand the current financial situation and are taking steps to both control and manage the situation in this current year. The Trustees actioned redundancies in response to programme closures and funding cuts prior to this financial year to ensure the organisation's finances were managed prudently and on an ongoing basis. The Trustees are confident of the performance of the organisation for the coming 12 month period and will keep a watching brief on the accounts in these austere times. COSTA receives funding from a range of government and charitable organisations and discharges these funds in pursuit of its charitable objectives and the particular programme funding targets.

FUNDS HELD BY THE CHARITY AS A CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE

The Charity holds no funds as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

FUTURE STRATEGY

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation we take seriously our role in supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

BENEFICIARIES

The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in and around the Dungannon South Tyrone area of Mid Ulster District who have been identified as being rurally isolated and / or socially excluded.

RESTRICTIONS ON WHO CAN BENEFIT

There are no restrictions on who can benefit.

There are no charges or fees to access any events or services.

There are no restrictions based on personal characteristics.

PRIVATE BENEFIT

There is no private benefit to any individual.

HARM

No harm has flowed from any of our Purposes.

SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORTING

There are no serious incidents to report.


VULNERABLE BENEFICIARIES

Appropriate Policies, Procedures and Training are in place such as POCVA Policy & Procedures.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission NI's Public Benefit Guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

By order of the Board:



Richard Knox

Chairperson

22 June 2024

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Annual return

Registration number NI042832
Charity Number: NIC101598

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

**Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee**

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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, are pleased to present their annual report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

<u>Charity Number</u>	NIC101598 The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee as per the Memorandum of Association
<u>Registered Number</u>	NI042832
<u>Registered Office</u>	Presidents Grants Homestead 45 Dergenagh Road Dungannon Co. Tyrone BT70 1TW
<u>Auditors</u>	MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Ltd Wellington House 30 Darling Street Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh
<u>Bankers</u>	Ulster Bank Limited 14 High Street Omagh Co. Tyrone BT78 1BJ

Directors & Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charities and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Directors.

The directors serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

<i>Directors</i>	Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson) Ms Carmen Hamill (Vice Chairperson) Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary & Company Secretary) Mr John Burrell MBE (Treasurer) (Deceased 6/12/2023) Ms Heather Nixon-McLaughlin Mr Raymond Harrison Prof Wilfred Mitchell OBE Mr David McFarlane (Resigned 22/06/2024) Mr Anthony McGonnell Ms Rosina O'Neill Ms Sharon McAleer (Appointed 22/06/2024)
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<i>Company Secretary</i>	Mr Trevor Lockhart
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**Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee**

**Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2002 with a registration number of NI 042832.

The Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was approved for registration as a charity with the Charity Commission for NI on 21st March 2013, with a registration number of NIC 101598.

Appointment of directors

The number of Directors shall be not less than four or more than fifteen.

Quorum for meetings is three of all members or the number nearest one third of total members which ever is greater.

One third (or the number nearest one third) of the Directors must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.

Membership is open to other persons (aged 18+) who are invited to become members of the Charity by the Directors and apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors.

Organisation

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) is a rural Support Network organisation. COSTA's principle activity is providing community development support primarily to rural community groups in Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. This takes the form of helping local groups to determine need in their respective communities, identifying funding opportunities and providing support to develop and deliver projects. COSTA's particular focus is helping groups with the NI Rural Development Programme, social economy, rural poverty, social isolation and developing community capacity and leadership. COSTA also provides a local community resource library and community venue at Presidents Grant's Homestead. COSTA provides a Newsletter, a regular email communications, events and informal support, training, information and workshops to build community capacity, promote good governance, and good/community relation within Dungannon Council Area.

Related Parties

Community Organisations Of South Tyrone & Areas continues to work in close partnership with Cookstown & Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN).

**Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee**

**Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Risk Management

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) as this funding stream will come to an end in 2026. The funding stream provided by RCDSS provided the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources. The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however, COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 2 years ahead.

Risks to Directors, staff, clients and members of the public are covered by robust directors, employers and public liability insurances.

Directors are ever aware of their governance responsibilities and a reserve fund is maintained so that in the unlikely event that the charity had to close, the Directors would be in a position to honour redundancy payments and other legal and moral obligations.

Risks of misappropriation of funds are managed through financial policies and procedures including a fraud policy and the annual external audit of accounts.

Risk management policies and procedures are in place and are reviewed regularly.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives & Activities

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one or more of the following charitable objectives:

- A. to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- B. to promote or assist in the promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance;
- C. to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- D. to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- E. to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- F. to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- G. to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- H. to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- I. to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Achievements and Performance

The overall aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Key Activities for the Year:

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCOSS)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over 13 years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our 13th year, in April 2023, of delivering the 'Rural Community Development Support Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

The key elements of this current contract with the Department of Agriculture, environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) supported through their Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Framework (TRPSI) are:

1. Local Groups: Increased Awareness/ Improved Capacity & Enhanced Sustainability;
2. Local Individuals: Improved Capacity of Individuals, Farmers & Farm Families;
3. Relationships: Bonding, Bridging & Linking.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The RCDSS provides on-going practical Community Development support services - responsive local group's needs:

Events / Workshops / Visits / Meetings.

- Newsletters / E-Bulletins / Public Relations.
- Facebook Page / Website.
- Use of 'Grant-Tracker' / funding searches etc.
- Assistance with funding applications.
- Networking & Sharing expertise.
- Capacity Building, Training.
- Good Practice Checklists & Action Plans.
- Governance & Board / Management Committee Skills.
- Office Services – access to photocopying, fax and email.
- Resources, Library, Equipment loan.
- Wide range of Management & Leadership Support Services.
- Community Audit (support), SWOTs, Profiles, Statistics.
- Policies, Procedures, Good Practice Guides.
- Action Plans, Needs Assessments, Skills Reviews.

Financial Review

Overall the Directors feel that the Charity has performed well over the year. Despite the increasingly difficult funding climate, the Board of Directors have managed to maintain a sound financial basis. This has been achieved through a very proactive and focused approach in the implementation of a successful fundraising strategy, continuous review of over-heads and the introduction of cost saving measures.

The Directors have also been able to ensure that core funding has been retained into the coming year.

A Reserves Policy is in place, which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £25,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves at 31 March 2024 are £20,899 in order to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any unforeseen scenarios.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The charity is looking ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in finding streams and to underpin variable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

Plans for the Future Periods

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation, we take seriously our role in supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

Public Benefit Statement

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include improves: cooperation; good/community relations; networking; skills; confidence; governance in community groups; increased capability in the management of community projects and facilities; increased access to funding for groups to develop projects; better informed group representatives about the sector and opportunities; enhanced ability to participate in decision making on policies which affect rural areas; more access to equipment as and when groups require it; strengthened ability of groups and individuals to avail of programmes which will improve their circumstances and opportunities. These benefits are evidenced through feedback from attendees at our events using evaluation forms; surveys conducted with member groups; records of loans/using equipment; verbal feedback of services provided; and independent evaluation of our services by funders. There is no harm anticipated from this purpose. The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in rural areas of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. A private benefit to Trustees may arise from our ongoing services and programme of training, good practise visits, direct support to groups, support provided through grants or information provision. Through this, Trustees gain skills, experience, or grant aid which are transferable to other settings, and which may benefit their own community group. Our own Trustees receive information in the same way as other beneficiaries. These benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The auditor is deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

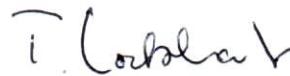
Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 30th September 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Richard Knox
Chairperson



Trevor Lockhart
Secretary

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd for the year ended 31st March 2024 which comprise statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31st March 2024
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with the United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice;
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- The directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- The directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received by us; or
- The company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entity or business activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2024

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Anthony Rasdale
Anthony Rasdale (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Limited
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Wellington House
30 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh

30th September 2024

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income & Expenditure account)
31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and gifts	3	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	-	48,470	48,470	48,470
Release of Deferred Income		-	-	-	-
Total Income		-	48,470	48,470	46,555
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5 6		44,050	44,050	42,751
Total Expenditure			44,050	44,050	42,751
Net income/ (deficit)			4,420	4,420	5,719
Other recognised gains and losses					
Other gain/(losses)					
Net movement in funds		-	4,420	4,420	5,719
Total funds brought forward		20,899	52,790	73,689	67,970
Total funds carried forward		20,899	57,210	78,109	73,689

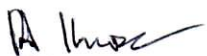
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Position
As At 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2023
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		97,618	88,198
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	6,500	1,500
Net current assets		91,118	86,698
Total assets less current liabilities		91,118	86,698
Deferred income		(13,009)	(13,009)
Net assets		78,109	73,689
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		57,210	52,790
Unrestricted funds		20,899	20,899
Total charity funds	13	78,109	73,689

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 30th September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson)


Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland.

1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP) (FRS 102).

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Limited by guarantee

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

3. Unrestricted Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Donations and Gifts	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Deferred Income Release	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

3. Restricted Funds

	Restricted Fund Income £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Analysis of Grant Income Received			
DAERA Grant	43,750	43750	43750
MUD Strategic Network Grant	3,000	3000	3000
CSWAN	720	720	720
Rural Warm & Chatty Place	1,000	1000	1000
	<u>48,470</u>	<u>48,470</u>	<u>48,470</u>

4. Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted Expenditure 2024 £	2023 Total £
Analysis of resources expended for charitable activities		
COSTA Covid-19 Micro Grants	-	-
Staff Pension Costs	-	-
General Expenses	-	-
Travel Expenses	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-
Light & Heat	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

6. Analysis of resources expending for grant purposes

	2024	2023
	Total	Total
	£	£
Analysis of restricted grant expenses		
DAERA Grant	43,750	43,750
MUDC Grant	3,000	3,000
	<u>46,750</u>	<u>43,750</u>

7. Staff Costs

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The true staff costs of the company during the year is noted below. The staff costs disclosed in the accounts have been reduced as they have been funded by a DAERA Grant .

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages & Salaries	30,507	30,507
Social Security and Pension Costs	2,746	2,746
	<u>33,253</u>	<u>33,253</u>

Amounts of Staff Costs Funded by Grant Assistance

DAERA Grant Funding

8. Emoluments of Directors

No director or member received any remuneration from the company during the year (2024: £Nil).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost:	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
At 31 March 2023	4,979	4,979
Additions		
Disposals		
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Accumulated Depreciation:

At 31 March 2023	4,979	4,979
Charge for year		
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Net Book Value:

At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other Debtors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11. Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	6,500	1,500
	<u>6,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Deferred Income - Government Grants	13,009	13,009
	<u>13,009</u>	<u>13,009</u>

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2024

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

There are no provisions for liabilities and charges in the current or previous year.

13. Total Charity Funds

There was no fund transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds within the year.

	Total Fund £	Total £
Balance of unrestricted funds at 1 April 2023	20,899	20,899
Deficit allocation to general reserves		
Balance of unrestricted funds at 31 March 2024	<u>20,899</u>	<u>20,899</u>
Balance of restricted funds at 1 April 2023	52,790	52,790
Surplus allocated to restricted reserve	4,420	4,420
Balance of restricted funds at 31 March 2024	<u>57,210</u>	<u>57,210</u>
Total funds both restricted and unrestricted at 31 March 2024	<u>78,109</u>	<u>78,109</u>

14. Cash Flow Statement

Under the provisions of Financial Reporting 102, the company is permitted to prepare annual accounts which exclude a Cash Flow Statement.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Accounts

Registration number NI042832
Charity Number: NIC101598

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2023

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, are pleased to present their annual report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

<u>Charity Number</u>	NIC101598 The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee as per the Memorandum of Association
<u>Registered Number</u>	NI042832
<u>Registered Office</u>	Presidents Grants Homestead 45 Dergenagh Road Dungannon Co. Tyrone BT70 1TW
<u>Auditors</u>	MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Ltd Wellington House 30 Darling Street Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh
<u>Bankers</u>	Ulster Bank Limited 14 High Street Omagh Co. Tyrone BT78 1BJ

Directors & Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charities and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Directors.

The directors serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

<i>Directors</i>	Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson) Ms Carmen Hamill (Vice Chairperson) Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary & Company Secretary) Mr John Burrell MBE (Treasurer) Ms Heather Nixon-McLaughlin Mr Raymond Harrison Prof Wilfred Mitchell OBE Mr David McFarlane Mr Anthony McGonnell Ms Rosina O'Neill
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<i>Company Secretary</i>	Mr Trevor Lockhart
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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2002 with a registration number of NI 042832.

The Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was approved for registration as a charity with the Charity Commission for NI on 21st March 2013, with a registration number of NIC 101598.

Appointment of directors

The number of Directors shall be not less than four or more than fifteen.

Quorum for meetings is three of all members or the number nearest one third of total members which ever is greater.

One third (or the number nearest one third) of the Directors must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.

Membership is open to other persons (aged 18+) who are invited to become members of the Charity by the Directors and apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors.

Organisation

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) is a rural Support Network organisation. COSTA's principle activity is providing community development support primarily to rural community groups in Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. This takes the form of helping local groups to determine need in their respective communities, identifying funding opportunities and providing support to develop and deliver projects. COSTA's particular focus is helping groups with the NI Rural Development Programme, social economy, rural poverty, social isolation and developing community capacity and leadership. COSTA also provides a local community resource library and community venue at Presidents Grant's Homestead. COSTA provides a Newsletter, a regular email communications, events and informal support, training, information and workshops to build community capacity, promote good governance, and good/community relation within Dungannon Council Area.

Related Parties

Community Organisations Of South Tyrone & Areas continues to work in close partnership with Cookstown & Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Risk Management

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) as this funding stream will come to an end in 2024. The funding stream provided by RCDSS provided the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources. The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however, COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 5 years ahead.

Risks to Directors, staff, clients and members of the public are covered by robust directors, employers and public liability insurances.

Directors are ever aware of their governance responsibilities and a reserve fund is maintained so that in the unlikely event that the charity had to close, the Directors would be in a position to honour redundancy payments and other legal and moral obligations.

Risks of misappropriation of funds are managed through financial policies and procedures including a fraud policy and the annual external audit of accounts.

Risk management policies and procedures are in place and are reviewed regularly.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives & Activities

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one or more of the following charitable objectives:

- A. to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- B. to promote or assist in the promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance;
- C. to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- D. to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- E. to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- F. to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- G. to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- H. to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- I. to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Achievements and Performance

The overall aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Key Activities for the Year:

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over 8 years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our 13th year, in April 2023, of delivering the 'Rural Community Development Support Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

The key elements of this current contract with the Department of Agriculture, environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) supported through their Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Framework (TRPSI) are:

- 1. Local Groups: Increased Awareness/ Improved Capacity & Enhanced Sustainability;
- 2. Local Individuals: Improved Capacity of Individuals, Farmers & Farm Families;
- 3. Relationships: Bonding, Bridging & Linking.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The RCDSS provides on-going practical Community Development support services - responsive local group's needs:

Events / Workshops / Visits / Meetings.

- Newsletters / E-Bulletins / Public Relations.
- Facebook Page / Website.
- Use of 'Grant-Tracker' / funding searches etc.
- Assistance with funding applications.
- Networking & Sharing expertise.
- Capacity Building, Training.
- Good Practice Checklists & Action Plans.
- Governance & Board / Management Committee Skills.
- Office Services – access to photocopying, fax and email.
- Resources, Library, Equipment loan.
- Wide range of Management & Leadership Support Services.
- Community Audit (support), SWOTs, Profiles, Statistics.
- Policies, Procedures, Good Practice Guides.
- Action Plans, Needs Assessments, Skills Reviews.

Financial Review

Overall the Directors feel that the Charity has performed well over the year. Despite the increasingly difficult funding climate, the Board of Directors have managed to maintain a sound financial basis. This has been achieved through a very proactive and focused approach in the implementation of a successful fundraising strategy, continuous review of over-heads and the introduction of cost saving measures.

The Directors have also been able to ensure that core funding has been retained into the coming year.

A Reserves Policy is in place, which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £25,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves at 31 March 2023 are £20,899 in order to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any unforeseen scenarios.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The charity is looking ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in finding streams and to underpin variable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

Plans for the Future Periods

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation, we take seriously our role in supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

Public Benefit Statement

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include improves: cooperation; good/community relations; networking; skills; confidence; governance in community groups; increased capability in the management of community projects and facilities; increased access to funding for groups to develop projects; better informed group representatives about the sector and opportunities; enhanced ability to participate in decision making on policies which affect rural areas; more access to equipment as and when groups require it; strengthened ability of groups and individuals to avail of programmes which will improve their circumstances and opportunities. These benefits are evidenced through feedback from attendees at our events using evaluation forms; surveys conducted with member groups; records of loans/using equipment; verbal feedback of services provided; and independent evaluation of our services by funders. There is no harm anticipated from this purpose. The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in rural areas of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. A private benefit to Trustees may arise from our ongoing services and programme of training, good practise visits, direct support to groups, support provided through grants or information provision. Through this, Trustees gain skills, experience, or grant aid which are transferable to other settings, and which may benefit their own community group. Our own Trustees receive information in the same way as other beneficiaries. These benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:


- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The auditor is deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 30th September 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Richard Knox
Chairperson



Trevor Lockhart
Secretary

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd for the year ended 31st March 2023 which comprise statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31st March 2023
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with the United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice;
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- The directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- The directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received by us; or
- The company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entity or business activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

We communicate with those charges with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Anthony Rasdale (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Limited
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Wellington House
30 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh

30th September 2023

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income & Expenditure account)
31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and gifts	3	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	-	48,470	48,470	46,555
Release of Deferred Income		-	-	-	-
Total Income		-	48,470	48,470	46,555
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5 6		42,751	42,751	43,633
Total Expenditure			42,751	42,751	43,633
Net income/ (deficit)			5,719	5,719	2,922
Other recognised gains and losses					
Other gain/(losses)					
Net movement in funds		-	5,719	5,719	2,922
Total funds brought forward		20,899	47,071	67,970	65,048
Total funds carried forward		20,899	52,790	73,970	67,970

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

As At 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2023	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		88,198	82,479
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	1,500	1,500
Net current assets		86,698	80,979
Total assets less current liabilities		86,698	80,979
Deferred income		(13,009)	(13,009)
Net assets		73,689	67,970
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		52,790	44,071
Unrestricted funds		20,899	24,119
Total charity funds	13	73,689	67,970

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 30th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson)



Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland.

1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP) (FRS 102).

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Limited by guarantee

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

3. Unrestricted Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Donations and Gifts	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Deferred Income Release	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

3. Restricted Funds

	Restricted Fund Income £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Analysis of Grant Income Received			
DAERA Grant	43,750	43750	43,195
MUD Strategic Network Grant	3,000	3000	3,000
CSWAN	720	720	
Rural Warm & Chatty Place	1,000	1000	360
	<u>48,470</u>	<u>48,470</u>	<u>46,555</u>

4. Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted Expenditure 2023 £	2022 Total £
Analysis of resources expended for charitable activities		
COSTA Covid-19 Micro Grants	-	-
Staff Pension Costs	-	-
General Expenses	-	438
Travel Expenses	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-
Light & Heat	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>438</u>

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

6. Analysis of resources expending for grant purposes

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	£	£
Analysis of restricted grant expenses		
DAERA Grant	43,750	43,195
MUDC Grant	3,000	0
	<u>46,750</u>	<u>43,195</u>

7. Staff Costs

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The true staff costs of the company during the year is noted below. The staff costs disclosed in the accounts have been reduced as they have been funded by a DAERA Grant .

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages & Salaries	30,507	30,507
Social Security and Pension Costs	2,746	2,746
	<u>33,253</u>	<u>33,253</u>

Amounts of Staff Costs Funded by Grant Assistance

DAERA Grant Funding	33,253	33,253
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8. Emoluments of Directors

No director or member received any remuneration from the company during the year (2023: £Nil).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost:	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
At 31 March 2022	4,979	4,979
Additions		
Disposals		
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Accumulated Depreciation:

At 31 March 2022	4,979	4,979
Charge for year		
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Net Book Value:

At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other Debtors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11. Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	1,500	1,500
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Deferred Income - Government Grants	13,009	13,009
	<u>13,009</u>	<u>13,009</u>

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

There are no provisions for liabilities and charges in the current or previous year.

13. Total Charity Funds

There was no fund transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds within the year.

	Total Fund £	Total £
Balance of unrestricted funds at 1 April 2022	20,899	20,899
Deficit allocation to general reserves	-	-
Balance of unrestricted funds at 31 March 2023	<u>20,899</u>	<u>20,899</u>
Balance of restricted funds at 1 April 2022	47,071	47,071
Surplus allocated to restricted reserve	5,719	5,719
Balance of restricted funds at 31 March 2023	<u>52,790</u>	<u>52,790</u>
Total funds both restricted and unrestricted at 31 March 2023	<u>73,689</u>	<u>73,689</u>

14. Cash Flow Statement

Under the provisions of Financial Reporting 102, the company is permitted to prepare annual accounts which exclude a Cash Flow Statement.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Annual report

Annual Report & Report on Public Benefit

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd

(COSTA)

REPORTING PERIOD

1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

TRUSTEES

Richard Knox	<i>Chairperson</i>
Trevor Lockhart	<i>Secretary & Company Secretary</i>
John Burrell MBE	<i>Treasurer</i>
Heather Nixon-McLaughlin	
Raymond Harrison	
Wilfred Mitchell OBE	
Anthony McGonnell	
Rosina O'Neill	
Carmen Hamill	
David McFarlane	

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd
14 High Street
Omagh
Co. Tyrone
BT78 1BJ

AUDITORS

Mac Neary Rasdale & Co
Registered Accountants & Auditors
Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh
BT74 7EW

TRUSTEES REPORT

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, submit their Annual Report and the audited Financial Statements for the **year ended 31 March 2023**. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) was first established in 2000 as an unincorporated Association.

COSTA was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee No. NI 42832 governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 on 26th March 2002, and now as amended, under the Companies Act 2006 on 21 March 2013.

COSTA is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland No: NIC101598.

The registered office address is President Grants Homestead, 45 Dergenagh Road, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland, BT70 1TW.

COSTA has held and maintains quality International Standards Organisation Quality Management Status: ISO 9001:2015. Certificate: FS 592437 was last awarded on 21 February 2017.

COSTA is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) through DAERA's Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation Programme (TRPSI) and Mid Ulster District Council.

The trustees of the company are its directors for the purposes of charity law and are collectively referred to as trustees. The number of trustees shall not be less than 4 or more than 15. COSTA is managed by a board of voluntary trustees elected every year from across the Dungannon and South Tyrone area of Mid Ulster. After each election, an induction session is held for new members of the board to explain the major areas of activity, including current programmes of work, guidance on the governance aspects of a trustee's role, an introduction to the strategic aims over the year ahead and an examination of the main threat and opportunities facing the charity.

The day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to a staff team headed by Loraine Griffin (Network Business Manager), which reports to the Board of trustees between 5 to 7 times per year. The Finance and Human Resources Sub-committee oversees major aspects of work and reports from the sub-committee are presented back to the full board meeting as they occur.

Written policies and procedures detail the decision making powers which are delegated to staff and those which are retained by the trustees. The current Finance and Human Resources sub-committee has committed to working with the Board on an ongoing programme of review of policies which used within the organisation.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is potentially exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Local Rural Community Development Support Service (LRCDSS) as this core funding stream comes to an end in **September 2024**. This funding stream provided by LRCDSS provides the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources.

The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however,

COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 3 years with a possible further extension of 2 more years.

PURPOSES

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one of more of the following charitable objects:

- a) to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- b) to promote or assist in promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance
- c) to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- d) to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- e) to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- f) to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- g) to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- h) to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- i) to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Objectives and Activities / Public Benefit

In shaping our activities and objectives, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

During the reporting period the organisation carried out its operations under the following four strategic aims and associated objectives:

- 1. Support for Community Planning**
- 2. Support for Isolated Rural People**
- 3. Support the Sustainability of Rural Villages**
- 4. Supporting Marginalised Minority Communities in rural border areas.**
- 5. Promoting Good Community Relations**

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REVIEW

Hello and a very warm welcome to all for COSTA's 2023 Annual General Meeting.

The location of this years' AGM is of great significance as we welcome you all to the newly refurbished Old Market Yard Hall which was funded by the Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership LAG's, Rural Services Scheme under the NI Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020.

The Hall Committee worked extremely hard in bringing a share of the Rural Development funding into Clogher. In particular, I want to acknowledge Richard Mulligan for his leadership in driving this initiative forward, ensuring delivery of an excellent capital development for community use, for hosting us tonight, and assisting COSTA and CWSAN in carrying out a review of the Clogher Village Plan.

Later on we look forward to hearing from local woman, Veronica Morris from Rural Support who will be filling us in on what is out there for Farmers and Farm Families in such challenging times. Then we will be tucking in to some delicious food from Diamond Catering as we Network.

This year sees its own fresh challenges as the Cost of Living Crisis bites. Tough time are certainly ahead as the government takes a hatchet to Budgets and Public Services, and many Voluntary/Community Sector organisations will struggle with having their funding cut or stopped altogether. COSTA aims to survive and to support our local groups and infrastructure through such a tough and quite unprecedented environment.

COSTA thanks and acknowledges our keystone funder the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DEARA), which makes the Network possible, and for their role in ensuring continuation of the Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Inclusion (TRPSI) Scheme, and the Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme which has funded groups throughout the Mid Ulster District and the region for over 8 years now.

I give a note of sincere thanks to all my fellow Board members, and off course to Mid Ulster District Council for their many years of funding and dedicated support.

This year however sees many changes to our Councillor representatives following the recent election with some new Councillors joining us shortly: Cllr Gael Gildernew, Cllr Eugene McConnell and Cllr Karol McQuade and I hope they enjoy their time on COSTA.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Cllr Dominic Molloy on his position as MUDC Chairperson and Cllr Meta Graham in her position of MUDC Deputy Chairperson, both of which will continue on COSTA.

It is however extremely unfortunate that we will be losing three very highly valued Council members; Cllr Frances Burton, Cllr Sharon McAleer and Cllr Sean McGuigan. Cllr McAleer will hopefully be re-joining us again as a Community Representative on the Board.

In addition, David McFarlane from Bush Community Group will also retire as a Board Member this year.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our out-going members for their time, skills, dedication, knowledge and years of experience given to COSTA. We wish them all the very best for the future.

I also extend our very deepest sympathy to Cllr Meta Graham and family for the sudden loss of her husband Robert Lawrence Graham on 12th December 2022, and also to Trevor Lockhart and

family for the very recent passing of his brother Kenneth Andrew Lockhart on 11th June 2023. Our thoughts are certainly with you all.

COSTA continues providing for the local community via our single staff member, Development Manager, Loraine Griffin. Along with Conor Corr, Seamus Donnelly and Marguerite Quinn of CWSAN a further year of the DAERA Local Rural Community Development Support Service (LRCDSS) contract has been delivered throughout Mid Ulster District as part of 7 regional providers. Our partnership with CWSAN – who cover the Cookstown and Magherafelt areas - continues on strongly and we hopefully look forward to many more years of joint working across our District and from our Office at President Grant's Homestead.

I also present our Annual Report which showcases the level and diversity of our work both for and in the local community. Many very positive developments for COSTA continued this year as we served on Mid Ulster Community Planning, the Charity Commission NI Stakeholder Forum, and the Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum to name but just a few.

I wish you, your communities, groups and villages all the very best going forward, as we get back out into the community again and meet much more face-to-face. COSTA is here to support you all – so give us a call!

Richard Knox - COSTA Chairperson

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW

Welcome everyone as we celebrate our 23rd Birthday!

I am delighted we are out again in the community and celebrating 23 years in this newly renovated Hall in Clogher and I congratulate Richard Mulligan and the Hall Committee for all their achievements.

Now entering into our second year of the current RCDSS contract under DAERA, this year COSTA has been very busy delivering 25 Newsletters, 2 special funding and information Bulletins, 8 'Open Door Days' with 38 attendees, 17 Workshops to 231 participants, 185 Website updates, and 234 Facebook posts. We have actively supported and engaged over 484 times with local Groups, Communities and Villages. We worked with over 50 agencies on a wide range of initiatives: MUD Council, Age Friendly MU, Mid Ulster Loneliness Network, CYPSP, Southern Outcomes Group, Integrated Care Partnership, Patient Client Council, Encompass, Community Planning, and major strategic issues with the Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum. This year COSTA joined the Charity Commission NI Stakeholder Forum and we continue to Chair the CYPSP. Our key activities can be viewed on pages 8 - 20 of this Report.

COSTA has continued to provide our full range of support, information, services, training workshops and the DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2022 which located onto a totally new on-line application and management portal, which this year saw 189 successful applications – our largest ever up-take. Thank you to Conor, Marguerite, Seamy, Anita, Denise, Gerry, Josie, and everyone in CWSAN for working so hard throughout.

I extend thanks to Mid Ulster District Council for their continued funding and support of COSTA, to Philip Clarke as Statutory Representative, and Ted and Faye Sharkey for their hard work in keeping President Grant's Homestead a very welcoming place for everyone.

A huge 'thank you' goes to the entire COSTA Board who are so supportive and volunteer their time and expertise so diligently: Richard Knox COSTA Chairperson, Trevor Lockhart, Heather McLaughlin, Carmen Hamill, Rosina O'Neill, John Burrell *MBE*, Raymond Harrison, Anthony McGonnell, Wilfred Mitchell OBE and David McFarland. Thank you to our Council Members: Frances Burton, Meta Graham, Dominic Molloy, Sean McGuigan and Sharon McAleer for their experience, knowledge, guidance and wisdom and welcome to our new reps.

We encourage local groups to make contact for any assistance required and we look forward to getting back out to see you all again while still also being able to fully accommodate online meetings via Zoom too. So please give us a call any time for assistance as we encourage everyone to reach out, to stay in touch, to stay informed, and also keep-up-to-date via our Website, FaceBook pages and our new twice-monthly Mail Chimp E-Newsletter Updates.

COSTA aims to meet all challenges ahead and to see that we continue to have a local office and a local service here to support our local communities as YOUR Local Support Network for the Dungannon and South Tyrone area ;)

Loraine Griffin
COSTA Network Development Manager

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The overall aim of COSTA's work is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over **13** years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our **13th year, from April 2023**, delivering a newly updated 'Rural Community Development Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS)

The new DAERA Local Rural Community Development Support Service has been awarded in 8 geographical catchments (Lots) to 6 providers plus COSTA. This ensures a Northern Ireland-wide service for rural communities which are largely defined as 'people living in communities or settlements of less than 4,000 people'.

DAERA has a key role in the delivery of the cross-departmental outcomes and a particular emphasis on overarching outcomes: **We live and work sustainably – protecting the environment.** Of particular importance to DAERA and the Networks are Outcomes 2 and 3, Outcome 2 – A clean, healthy environment, benefitting nature and the economy. The RCDSS is a

key part of delivering on **Outcome 3 – A thriving rural economy, contributing to prosperity and well-being.**

COSTA and CWSAN have secured another 3 years funding to continue to deliver the Rural CD Support service in Mid Ulster from October 2023.

KEY ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR

The COSTA Local Rural Community Development Support Service (LRCDSS) delivered across the Dungannon & South Tyrone area of Mid Ulster District:

1. Support for Community Planning:

- **25 Newsletters and 4 Special Funding Bulletins to 500+ Groups.**
- **30 Email-outs to 500+ Groups.**
- **185 Website updates.**
- **234 posts on 2 Facebook Pages.**
- **2 Facebook Pages: 517 Followers and 507 Page Likes / 52 Check-ins.**
- **484 LRCDSS supports to groups.**
- **37 Good Practice Checklists (Community Planning).**
- **19 Community Planning Feedbacks / Opportunities / Linkages / Actions.**
- **29 Linkages / Engagements regarding Community Planning.**
- **2 Meetings: MUDC Community Planning.**

2. Support for Isolated Rural People:

- **8 ‘Open Door Days’ (38 groups / attendees) 10/5/22, 24/5/22, 25/11/22, 5/12/22, 3/2/23, 17/2/23, 3/3/23.**
- **36 Good Practice Checklists (Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation).**
- **36 Checklist Follow-ups to Groups’ needs.**
- **322 Groups supported / mentored on Capacity Building.**
- **81 Groups supported / mentored on Governance.**
- **Covid-19 Guidance & Risk Assessments: 36 Groups.**
- **12 New Database Entries / Updates.**
- **17 Workshops with 231 participants.**
- **STAYing Rural Good Practice Visit (with 2 PhD Students from Germany & Netherlands: Tuesday 12 April 2022 at President Grant’s Homestead (4 attendees).**
- **183 COSTA Member Groups.**

- **135 Interagency Engagements:** MU Community Navigator, MU Coronavirus Support Forum, SHSC Trust Social Care Hub, Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation (TRPSI) Promotions / Signpostings / Referrals: MULN, DAERA, ARTS, CYPSP, Agewell MU, Health Alliance, CDM Community Transport, Rural Support, SUSE+ / DEL / FarmSAFE, Libraries NI, Farm Family Health Checks.
- **62 Regional Links & Engagements:** (Covid Wellbeing NI, DFC Emergency Response Group, NIVCA, DAERA, RCN, RNNI, Rural Action, JVCS Forum etc).
- **11 Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum Meetings.**
- **1 Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum Workshop ‘Strategy Day’: 13/4/2022.**

3. Support for the Sustainability of Rural Villages

- **1 Meeting with MURDP LAG & Programme Evaluation 25/4/2022.**
- **2 MUDRP LAG Board Meetings.**
- **6 Rural Villages Supported.**
- **Clogher Village Plan Consultation Event** (30 attendees) 15/3/2023.
- **1 Good Practice Visit:** Clonaneese Community Centre (NIRDP Project) (25 attendees) 30/6/2022.
- **189 Groups funded under DAERA Micro Capital Grants Scheme 2022 (Phase 9).**
- **80 Groups supported** to submit DAERA ‘Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme’ Applications / submit Claims / Governance / ICT etc.
- **10 DAERA ‘Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2022 / Phase 9 Workshops:**
- **4 DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Pre-Application Workshops** (134 attendees) 6/9/22, 8/9/22, 14/9/22, 15/9/22.
- **6 DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Application LOO Workshops** (127 attendees) 12/12/22, 13/12/22, 14/12/22, 14/12/22, 16/12/22, 19/12/22.

4. Governance & Sustainability

- **1 Meeting with DAERA Director of Rural Affairs:** 28/2/2023.
- **1 Programme of Evaluation** in place for Regional LRCDSS and **2 Meetings.**
- **10 RCDSS Regional Case Studies.**
- 14 DAERA / LRCDSS / LRSNs Contract Meetings.
- 4 LRCDSS Monitoring Reports / 4 Audit Certificates.
- 4 LRCDSS / DAERA Financial Visits & Monitoring Visits.
- 1 Company House Annual Return: March 2023.
- 1 Charity Commission NI Annual Return: December 2022.
- 5 COSTA Board Meetings.

- 1 COSTA Board Training Session 9/2/2023 (7 attendees).
- 1 COSTA Annual General Meeting (30/6/2022) 25 attendees.

COSTA Project Partnerships & Representation 2022 / 2023

- **Joint Voluntary Community Sector Forum.**
- **Charity Commission NI Stakeholder Forum.**
- **Mid Ulster District Community Plan - VCS Member / Clogher Valley DEA.**
- **Mid Ulster LAPN – Local Anti-Poverty Network.**
- **Mid Ulster Seniors Network (MUSN).**
- **Mid Ulster Loneliness Network (MULN).**
- **Age Friendly Mid-Ulster.**
- **Community Sector Training - Management Group.**
- **Rural Network Northern Ireland (Member).**
- **MUD Council Fair Trade Steering Group & Chairperson.**

- **Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Southern Area – Armagh & Dungannon Rep.**
- **DAERA Rural Policy Framework – Social Wellbeing Sub-Group Member.**
- **Game Changer Project Management Team.**
- **Agewell Mid-Ulster Partnership.**
- **CYPSP - Children & Young People Strategic Partnership Locality Group (Armagh & Dungannon) & Chairperson.**
- **RCDSS / Local Rural Support Networks Managers Forum.**
- **Southern Area Outcomes Group**
- **Southern Health & Social Care Hub.**

DAERA Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2022 (DRMCG 2022 / Phase 9)

The Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme funded by DAERA provides grants of up to 85% of the total cost of a small project, up to a maximum grant limit of £1,500, and are designed to address local issues of:

- **Access Poverty**
- **Financial Poverty**
- **Social Isolation**

Phase 1 was first piloted in May 2015, since then Phases 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and now the 2022 Phase (9) was launched in September 2022. CWSAN and COSTA jointly deliver the DRMC Grant Scheme throughout the Mid Ulster District Council area along with the other 7 Networks regionally. There has been a huge uptake in the scheme from all manner of local groups wishing to carry out small capital projects which can fall under one or more 4 Key areas:

- **Modernisation (of premises / assets)**
- **Information Communication Technology**
- **Health & Wellbeing**
- ***Energy Efficiency / Environmental Improvement***

The Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Mr Edwin Poots MLA has spoken in the NI Assembly about how pleased the Department is with the positive difference these small grants have made to groups, not only in capital value, but in confidence building.

During 2022 the Scheme was delivered with all applications being submitted and managed digitally via a further revised ‘purpose-built’ online portal through the NI Direct (and Government Gateway) website. All Workshops were delivered on-line via Zoom with extensive support given in person, via phone and email too.

Under the 2022 Phase (9), around 207 applications were received, a 25% increase from the previous year! 194 eligible projects in the MUDC area were funded and we hope that a further Phase (10) of DRMCG will open again soon and no doubt with further revisions and changes expected in 2023.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR WORK PLEASE SEE FULL ANNUAL REPORT
AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: [Newsletters & Annual Reports \(costaruralsupportnetwork.org\)](https://www.costaruralsupportnetwork.org)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

FINANCIAL POSITION AT END OF YEAR

For the year income is **£48,470**. During the year some cutbacks were made arising as a result of austerity funding cuts from DAERA.

Despite cuts to funding programmes, the organisation remains in a very strong financial position as we commence a new Tender Contract which should last for up to 3+ years ahead.

OUTSTANDING DEBTS OR LIABILITIES

There were no debts or outstanding debts or liabilities.

RESERVES POLICY

A Reserves Policy is in place which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £20,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves **at 31 March 2023 are £20,899** to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any potential scenarios.

COSTA has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The Charity is looking at ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in funding streams and to underpin viable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

FUNDS IN MATERIAL DEFICIT AND STEPS TAKEN TO MITIGATE

There were no funds in material deficit.

FINANCIAL MITIGATION

The Trustees of COSTA acknowledge and understand the current financial situation and are taking steps to both control and manage the situation in this current year. The Trustees actioned redundancies in response to programme closures and funding cuts prior to this financial year to ensure the organisation's finances were managed prudently and on an ongoing basis. The Trustees are confident of the performance of the organisation for the coming 12 month period and will keep a watching brief on the accounts in these austere times. COSTA receives funding from a range of government and charitable organisations and discharges these funds in pursuit of its charitable objectives and the particular programme funding targets.

FUNDS HELD BY THE CHARITY AS A CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE

The Charity holds no funds as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

FUTURE STRATEGY

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation we take seriously our role in

supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

BENEFICIARIES

The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in and around the Dungannon South Tyrone area of Mid Ulster District who have been identified as being rurally isolated and / or socially excluded.

RESTRICTIONS ON WHO CAN BENEFIT

There are no restrictions on who can benefit.

There are no charges or fees to access any events or services.

There are no restrictions based on personal characteristics.

PRIVATE BENEFIT

There is no private benefit to any individual.

HARM

No harm has flowed from any of our Purposes.

SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORTING

There are no serious incidents to report.

VULNERABLE BENEFICIARIES

Appropriate Policies, Procedures and Training are in place such as POCVA Policy & Procedures.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission NI's Public Benefit Guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

By order of the Board:



Richard Knox

Chairperson

22 June 2023

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101598

Annual return

Registration number NI042832
Charity Number: NIC101598

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2023

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, are pleased to present their annual report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

<u>Charity Number</u>	NIC101598 The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee as per the Memorandum of Association
<u>Registered Number</u>	NI042832
<u>Registered Office</u>	Presidents Grants Homestead 45 Dergenagh Road Dungannon Co. Tyrone BT70 1TW
<u>Auditors</u>	MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Ltd Wellington House 30 Darling Street Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh
<u>Bankers</u>	Ulster Bank Limited 14 High Street Omagh Co. Tyrone BT78 1BJ

Directors & Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charities and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Directors.

The directors serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

<i>Directors</i>	Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson) Ms Carmen Hamill (Vice Chairperson) Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary & Company Secretary) Mr John Burrell MBE (Treasurer) Ms Heather Nixon-McLaughlin Mr Raymond Harrison Prof Wilfred Mitchell OBE Mr David McFarlane Mr Anthony McGonnell Ms Rosina O'Neill
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<i>Company Secretary</i>	Mr Trevor Lockhart
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Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2002 with a registration number of NI 042832.

The Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited was approved for registration as a charity with the Charity Commission for NI on 21st March 2013, with a registration number of NIC 101598.

Appointment of directors

The number of Directors shall be not less than four or more than fifteen.

Quorum for meetings is three of all members or the number nearest one third of total members which ever is greater.

One third (or the number nearest one third) of the Directors must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.

Membership is open to other persons (aged 18+) who are invited to become members of the Charity by the Directors and apply to the Charity in the form required by the Directors.

Organisation

Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas (COSTA) is a rural Support Network organisation. COSTA's principle activity is providing community development support primarily to rural community groups in Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. This takes the form of helping local groups to determine need in their respective communities, identifying funding opportunities and providing support to develop and deliver projects. COSTA's particular focus is helping groups with the NI Rural Development Programme, social economy, rural poverty, social isolation and developing community capacity and leadership. COSTA also provides a local community resource library and community venue at Presidents Grant's Homestead. COSTA provides a Newsletter, a regular email communications, events and informal support, training, information and workshops to build community capacity, promote good governance, and good/community relation within Dungannon Council Area.

Related Parties

Community Organisations Of South Tyrone & Areas continues to work in close partnership with Cookstown & Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Risk Management

The trustees have taken a detailed review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A major risk exists with regard to future core funding for the organisation as the current contract for the Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS) as this funding stream will come to an end in 2024. The funding stream provided by RCDSS provided the essential key source of the organisation's income to ensure retention of the office and essential staffing resources. The Board believes the organisation has considered this risk and made provision under the Reserves Policy will be vigilant of the organisation's risks as new contracts and tenders are negotiated in the coming months. This situation is true of a large swathe of the sector at this point in time, however, COSTA Trustees are confident that they will be able to sustain the organisation with both current contracts, current reserves and new opportunities. The Network has applied jointly with CWSAN to DAERA's new Tender process for the RCDSS and has been successfully awarded a new contract which will run for up to 5 years ahead.

Risks to Directors, staff, clients and members of the public are covered by robust directors, employers and public liability insurances.

Directors are ever aware of their governance responsibilities and a reserve fund is maintained so that in the unlikely event that the charity had to close, the Directors would be in a position to honour redundancy payments and other legal and moral obligations.

Risks of misappropriation of funds are managed through financial policies and procedures including a fraud policy and the annual external audit of accounts.

Risk management policies and procedures are in place and are reviewed regularly.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives & Activities

In ensuring that the activities of COSTA provide a public benefit, all our activities are related to one or more of the following charitable objectives:

- A. to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public;
- B. to promote or assist in the promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance;
- C. to promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others;
- D. to support community development, social inclusion and wellbeing activities and to work with partners to support and improve the conditions of the inhabitants in rural life and the development of a sustainable community;
- E. to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit;
- F. to promote the advancement of health and well-being;
- G. to promote good relations, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity;
- H. to promote awareness of the community in the area of benefit among public bodies, service providers and statutory agencies and to act as a representative of voluntary and community organisations offering services and support to the inhabitants in the area of benefit;
- I. to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

Achievements and Performance

The overall aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas, thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Key Activities for the Year:

Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd (COSTA) in conjunction with Cookstown and Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) have continued to work in close partnership. With over 8 years now already completed, we strive towards the start of our 13th year, in April 2023, of delivering the 'Rural Community Development Support Service' for the Mid Ulster area covering the Dungannon and South Tyrone area (COSTA) and the Cookstown & Magherafelt areas (CWSAN).

The key elements of this current contract with the Department of Agriculture, environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) supported through their Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Framework (TRPSI) are:

- 1. Local Groups: Increased Awareness/ Improved Capacity & Enhanced Sustainability;
- 2. Local Individuals: Improved Capacity of Individuals, Farmers & Farm Families;
- 3. Relationships: Bonding, Bridging & Linking.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The RCDSS provides on-going practical Community Development support services - responsive local group's needs:

Events / Workshops / Visits / Meetings.

- Newsletters / E-Bulletins / Public Relations.
- Facebook Page / Website.
- Use of 'Grant-Tracker' / funding searches etc.
- Assistance with funding applications.
- Networking & Sharing expertise.
- Capacity Building, Training.
- Good Practice Checklists & Action Plans.
- Governance & Board / Management Committee Skills.
- Office Services – access to photocopying, fax and email.
- Resources, Library, Equipment loan.
- Wide range of Management & Leadership Support Services.
- Community Audit (support), SWOTs, Profiles, Statistics.
- Policies, Procedures, Good Practice Guides.
- Action Plans, Needs Assessments, Skills Reviews.

Financial Review

Overall the Directors feel that the Charity has performed well over the year. Despite the increasingly difficult funding climate, the Board of Directors have managed to maintain a sound financial basis. This has been achieved through a very proactive and focused approach in the implementation of a successful fundraising strategy, continuous review of over-heads and the introduction of cost saving measures.

The Directors have also been able to ensure that core funding has been retained into the coming year.

A Reserves Policy is in place, which allows for an annual reserve to be held ranging between a minimum of £25,000 to £35,000. The actual free reserves at 31 March 2023 are £20,899 in order to ensure that the organisation holds sufficient reserves to meet any unforeseen scenarios.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Limited has a Reserves Policy which details why reserves are held and the level of reserves appropriate for the charity. The trustees review the level of free reserves required (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, designated and restricted funds) on an annual basis to ensure continuity of charitable operations.

The charity is looking ways of increasing funding to meet current needs and this is reviewed annually. Designated reserves for various purposes are detailed and a cash flow fund is held to bridge any potential gaps or short-falls in finding streams and to underpin variable programmes that are experiencing cash flow problems. A staffing fund is held to cover sickness, maternity and to meet all redundancy costs.

Plans for the Future Periods

The Company plans to continue in developing its services in line with its strategic priorities outlined above and it will seek to develop collaborative partnerships with a range of external agencies. Funding arrangements will be kept under review in relation to demand for service improvements and constraints on public expenditure. As a networking organisation, we take seriously our role in supporting the local rural and community infrastructure, disseminating best practice, and sharing experiences so that communities can learn from each other.

Public Benefit Statement

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include improves: cooperation; good/community relations; networking; skills; confidence; governance in community groups; increased capability in the management of community projects and facilities; increased access to funding for groups to develop projects; better informed group representatives about the sector and opportunities; enhanced ability to participate in decision making on policies which affect rural areas; more access to equipment as and when groups require it; strengthened ability of groups and individuals to avail of programmes which will improve their circumstances and opportunities. These benefits are evidenced through feedback from attendees at our events using evaluation forms; surveys conducted with member groups; records of loans/using equipment; verbal feedback of services provided; and independent evaluation of our services by funders. There is no harm anticipated from this purpose. The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people living in rural areas of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council area. A private benefit to Trustees may arise from our ongoing services and programme of training, good practise visits, direct support to groups, support provided through grants or information provision. Through this, Trustees gain skills, experience, or grant aid which are transferable to other settings, and which may benefit their own community group. Our own Trustees receive information in the same way as other beneficiaries. These benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:


- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The auditor is deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 30th September 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Richard Knox
Chairperson



Trevor Lockhart
Secretary

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd for the year ended 31st March 2023 which comprise statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31st March 2023
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with the United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice;
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- The directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- The directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received by us; or
- The company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entity or business activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Community Organisation of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
for the year ended 31 March 2023

We communicate with those charges with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Anthony Rasdale (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
MacNeary, Rasdale & Co. Limited
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Wellington House
30 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh

30th September 2023

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income & Expenditure account)
31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and gifts	3	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	-	48,470	48,470	46,555
Release of Deferred Income		-	-	-	-
Total Income		-	48,470	48,470	46,555
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5 6		42,751	42,751	43,633
Total Expenditure			42,751	42,751	43,633
Net income/ (deficit)			5,719	5,719	2,922
Other recognised gains and losses					
Other gain/(losses)					
Net movement in funds		-	5,719	5,719	2,922
Total funds brought forward		20,899	47,071	67,970	65,048
Total funds carried forward		20,899	52,790	73,970	67,970

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

As At 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2023	Unrestricted/ Total Funds 2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		88,198	82,479
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	1,500	1,500
Net current assets		86,698	80,979
Total assets less current liabilities		86,698	80,979
Deferred income		(13,009)	(13,009)
Net assets		73,689	67,970
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		52,790	44,071
Unrestricted funds		20,899	24,119
Total charity funds	13	73,689	67,970

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 30th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Richard Knox (Chairperson)



Mr Trevor Lockhart (Secretary)

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland.

1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP) (FRS 102).

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Limited by guarantee

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

3. Unrestricted Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Donations and Gifts	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Deferred Income Release	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

3. Restricted Funds

	Restricted Fund Income £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Analysis of Grant Income Received			
DAERA Grant	43,750	43750	43,195
MUD Strategic Network Grant	3,000	3000	3,000
CSWAN	720	720	
Rural Warm & Chatty Place	1,000	1000	360
	<u>48,470</u>	<u>48,470</u>	<u>46,555</u>

4. Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted Expenditure 2023 £	2022 Total £
Analysis of resources expended for charitable activities		
COSTA Covid-19 Micro Grants	-	-
Staff Pension Costs	-	-
General Expenses	-	438
Travel Expenses	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-
Light & Heat	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>438</u>

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

6. Analysis of resources expending for grant purposes

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	£	£
Analysis of restricted grant expenses		
DAERA Grant	43,750	43,195
MUDC Grant	3,000	0
	<u>46,750</u>	<u>43,195</u>

7. Staff Costs

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The true staff costs of the company during the year is noted below. The staff costs disclosed in the accounts have been reduced as they have been funded by a DAERA Grant .

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages & Salaries	30,507	30,507
Social Security and Pension Costs	2,746	2,746
	<u>33,253</u>	<u>33,253</u>

Amounts of Staff Costs Funded by Grant Assistance

DAERA Grant Funding	33,253	33,253
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8. Emoluments of Directors

No director or member received any remuneration from the company during the year (2023: £Nil).

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost:	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
At 31 March 2022	4,979	4,979
Additions		
Disposals		
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Accumulated Depreciation:

At 31 March 2022	4,979	4,979
Charge for year		
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>

Net Book Value:

At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other Debtors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11. Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	1,500	1,500
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Deferred Income - Government Grants	13,009	13,009
	<u>13,009</u>	<u>13,009</u>

Community Organisations of South Tyrone and Areas Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

There are no provisions for liabilities and charges in the current or previous year.

13. Total Charity Funds

There was no fund transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds within the year.

	Total Fund £	Total £
Balance of unrestricted funds at 1 April 2022	20,899	20,899
Deficit allocation to general reserves	-	-
Balance of unrestricted funds at 31 March 2023	<u>20,899</u>	<u>20,899</u>
Balance of restricted funds at 1 April 2022	47,071	47,071
Surplus allocated to restricted reserve	5,719	5,719
Balance of restricted funds at 31 March 2023	<u>52,790</u>	<u>52,790</u>
Total funds both restricted and unrestricted at 31 March 2023	<u>73,689</u>	<u>73,689</u>

14. Cash Flow Statement

Under the provisions of Financial Reporting 102, the company is permitted to prepare annual accounts which exclude a Cash Flow Statement.